

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 5, 2007

**STATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR TO TESTIFY AT CONGRESSIONAL
BRIEFING**

Patricia W. Griffin, Esquire, State Court Administrator, will present testimony as part of a panel on Court Interpretation and Access to Justice at a Congressional briefing on Friday, September 7, 2007 in the Mansfield Room of the U.S. Capitol at the request of Senator Herb Kohl of Wisconsin. Senator Kohl is the prime sponsor of S. 702, "The State Court Interpreter Grant Program Act of 2007." Ms. Griffin's testimony will focus on developing a court interpreter program and the challenges that each state is facing along with national trends and budget issues. She is the co-author along with Alaska's State Court Administrator Stephanie Cole of a paper entitled "Court Interpretation: Fundamental to Access to Justice" which was recently presented to the Conference of State Court Administrators. Excerpts from the paper will be included in her testimony.

Serving on the panel with Ms. Griffin will be The Honorable Sergio Guiterraz of the Idaho Court of Appeals and Javier Soler, Court Interpreter Program Administrator with the Maryland Administrative Office of the Courts. The panel members were recommended by the National Center for State Courts located in Williamsburg, Virginia. Delaware is a member of the National Consortium of State Court Interpreter Programs which is part of the National Center for State Courts. State Court Administrator Griffin served as chair of the National Consortium in 2000 – 2002.

**For further information please contact
Franny Haney, Manager of the Delaware Certified Court Interpreter Program
at 302-255-0093 or by email at
franny.haney@state.de.us**